

YourCroydon

ISSUE 20 - AUGUST 2008

'A place to be proud of'



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The next edition of **Your Croydon** will be published on Wednesday, 27 August 2008.

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Transforming the town centre

Few can disagree that Croydon has a town centre of two halves – and the halfway line is the stretch of A212 formed of Wellesley Road and Park Lane, from the West Croydon bus terminal area to Fairfield.

The council is keen to see a softening of the barrier between the commercial and retail parts of the town, transforming what is currently little less than an urban motorway into a far more people-friendly asset from which most traffic has been removed.

Such a hope is but one element of plans that will see an overhaul of the town's street scene, including new proposals for a number of publicly-owned properties. The challenge of transforming Wellesley Road is being thrown open to international architectural practices in a competition that will be launched later this year. The intention is to find the most creative and inspired solution to remove the obstacle that the town centre's major through road currently represents. Such a solution would be a highly visible manifestation of Croydon's ambitions to be regarded as London's third city.

The competition, to be run by Croydon Council, together with Design for London and Transport for London, will lead to the transformation of Wellesley Road and Park Lane into an urban space of the highest quality, which is visually pleasing and people-friendly.

Inevitably, people will be asking where the displaced traffic will go, and what impact the plans will have on town-centre parking.

It is necessary to get a full understanding of how the system works now. We are looking in detail at all the traffic movements in and around the town centre. While we need to await the outcomes of this study, we are confident that we can create a 21st-century traffic system that can function better than the half-finished 1960s solution we have inherited.

Car-parking technology has also advanced massively with variable message signing and intelligent transport systems making dramatic differences to the amount of queuing needed to get into car parks.

Running alongside the Wellesley Road plans will be another string to the council's regeneration bow that has already seen the agreement of a partnership deal with development company John Laing Projects and Developments.

Creation of an urban regeneration vehicle is intended to maximise the value of publicly-owned assets by sharing in profitable development that will see a series of new building schemes.

Initially, the council expects to place four of its assets in the first tranche of development opportunities.

These are Taberner House, the council's 40-year-old skyscraper headquarters; the council's 1960s offices in Fell Road; College Green including the college's arts teaching block, the underground and multi-storey car parks and the open space; and the Tamworth annex site in West Croydon.

Most of the buildings involved have a limited life in their present form and are becoming ever more expensive to maintain. All would benefit from regeneration or redevelopment.

For some time, the council has sold sites to the highest bidder only for developers to take all the profit when the land is developed. The solution we expect to engineer with John Laing will ensure we get a big slice of the future action and make a lasting contribution to Croydon's regeneration.

In addition to securing the best value for money for Croydon's residents, by taking on a commercial investor as a partner in a regeneration vehicle, the council will be able to maximise the value of its assets and drive the way in which the next phase of boroughwide regeneration unfolds.

Tim Pollard
Deputy leader and cabinet member for regeneration

Designs on Wellesley Road

Council invites urban designers to tear down barrier that splits town in two

The challenge of transforming Wellesley Road from what some describe as an urban motorway into a pleasant, people-friendly open space has been issued by Croydon Council.

A competition is to be launched later in the year that will select an architectural design team to develop a scheme to replace the formidable barrier that cuts Croydon town centre in two.

Removing the obstacle that Wellesley Road currently represents would be a highly visible

manifestation of Croydon's ambitions to be regarded as London's third city.

The competition will be run by Croydon Council together with Design for London, and Transport for London.

The concept of the road as a tree-lined boulevard, with wide pavements, and high-quality furnishings is highly achievable, in the council's estimation.

Ideally, the council would like to see all vehicles excluded from the road with the

exception of trams and buses. However, it is appreciated that the impact of changes to traffic movement will still need to be fully tested.

The initial stage of the contest, at the end of September, will seek expressions of interest from applicants, setting out priorities.

The second stage, starting next January, will be the competition itself with up to six practices participating. It is hoped a design team could be appointed by the following May.



Coulsdon to bare all

Latest stage of Coulsdon regeneration about to commence

Coulsdon town centre's new Naked Streets policy will see all unnecessary signs and road markings removed as part of improvement plans to boost area business.

The million-pound makeover will see Brighton Road, between Lion Green Road and Windermere Road, transformed into a more pedestrian-friendly place to deter speeding drivers and improve the area.

Under the Transport for London-funded project footpaths will be widened, disabled parking bays added and more pay-and-display machines introduced, with free parking allowed for the first 30 minutes.

CCTV cameras are to be installed at three points: the junction of Brighton Road and Farthing Way, in front of the former Red Lion site, and the junction of Brighton Road and Lion Green Road.

Additionally, an artist is to be appointed to develop a public art strategy in the town centre, and the environment will benefit from tree planting.

Initial stages of the work are due to get under way this month, with the majority starting in January

Putting the cork in town's drink-related crime

Joint-agency approach helps bring down incidences of booze-fuelled offending

Bringing together the council, police and local licence holders has seen Croydon bucking a countrywide trend with a drop in the number of drink-related offences in the town centre.

Nationally, problems with such crime show little sign of decreasing; however there has been clear progress in Croydon thanks to some great work from a local organisation.

Pubwatch was set up with the aim of achieving a safer and responsibly led social drinking environment in all licensed premises throughout the UK, helping to reduce alcohol-related crime.

"The programme has gone from strength to strength since it started," explained Jason Chaney, of Pubwatch in Croydon.

"Everyone is welcome to share information, and the coordination of our efforts with the council and police has made an impact, for sure."

A computerised system allows local licence holders to share information on potential trouble makers, banning them from bars, pubs and clubs in the area.

"Croydon has definitely got better in terms of how we deal with drink-related crime in the last four years, but we're hoping to raise standards further still," added Jason.

Thanks to the Pubwatch pooling of resources, Croydon is becoming a safer environment for evening reveliers.



Roadworks on the web

Details of work being carried out on borough's roads now available on council website

A frequent cause of frustration for motorists, particularly when in a hurry, is to find they're being held up by roadworks they'd had no idea were being undertaken.

That need no longer be the case in Croydon, because the council is now publishing details of road closures on its website.

Planning officers have pulled together all the relevant information and produced an alphabetical list, making it easy for motorists to find out if any roads they are planning to use will be affected.

In addition to the road name, each entry includes details of the work being carried out, its reason, the period of the work, and



the name of the company or organisation responsible.

To access the list, go to www.croydon.gov.uk and follow the link from the home page.

The information will be regularly updated by planning staff.

Tiger Tiger claws its way to title of borough's best bar

Borough's bars go head to head to find out which is Best Bar None

Croydon town centre's Tiger Tiger has scooped the prestigious title of overall winner in the annual Best Bar None awards.

Actor Graham Cole, who plays PC Tony Stamp in ITV cop show *The Bill*, handed out the awards at a glitzy black-tie event at the Croydon Hilton.

Members of staff are pictured having accepted the award from the actor (photo: Photogenic Events).

Tiger Tiger also claimed the title of Best Bar, with High Street neighbour Milan Bar netting the runner-up award.

Other winners were:

- Best Pub – The Green Dragon (runner up – Ship of Fools)
- Best Club – Hustler (runner up – Black Sheep Bar)

And 31 other establishments from around the borough claimed a prized "accredited" rating.

Now in its sixth year, Best Bar None, run jointly by the council and Croydon police, drew its highest number of participating pubs, clubs and bars, with 45 premises from across the borough applying for the scheme.

Best Bar None offers licensed premises the opportunity to prove they are committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of their customers. The scheme promotes responsible standards of management and aims to reduce drink-related crime.



Schools put the arts at the heart of learning

Commitment to teaching the arts earns local schools a hatful of awards

Croydon's schools have shown they have a sound grasp of the importance of offering the borough's children a rich and fulfilling arts curriculum.

Arts Council England has awarded 11 borough schools the Artsmark, which recognises a school's commitment to, and excellence in, arts education.

The most prestigious award, Artsmark Gold, was awarded to four schools: Atwood Primary School, Kingsley Primary School, Ridgeway Primary School and Nursery, and St Giles School.

Another four schools picked up the Silver award: Bensham Manor, David Livingstone Primary School, St Mary's Catholic Infant School, and Wattenden Primary School.

At the award ceremony, Children's Laureate Michael Rosen recited a specially commissioned poem, a copy of which was presented to the schools with their award.

Getting your hands dirty

Allotment-tending is growing in popularity – see if it's for you

Ever wondered exactly how allotments work? Does the thought of achieving some degree of self-sufficiency appeal?

If you answered either question with a "yes", August might be the month to provide you with all the information you need.

Four of the borough's allotment sites are staging open days on which members of the public will be welcomed to have a look around, see what goes on, chat to plot holders and get an idea of whether the allotment life is for them.

- Mickleham Way, New Addington – 3 and 4 August
- Spa Hill, Upper Norwood – Sat, 16 August
- Biggin Wood, Biggin Hill, Upper Norwood – Sunday, 17 August
- South Croydon, Purley Oaks, Sanderstead Road – Bank Holiday Monday, 25 August

Further information on the council's allotments can be found at www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/parksandopenspaces/allotments

Shoppers got a brand new bag

Recycling message loud and clear on free cotton carriers

More than 4,500 reusable cotton bags were handed out to shoppers by Croydon Council recycling officers during the recent national Recycle Week.



The aim of the week was to raise awareness of recycling through encouraging people to recycle one more thing.

The council's officers toured the borough, handing out the bags in Thornton Heath, New Addington and central Croydon's Surrey Street market.

The idea was to encourage people to use the bags instead of plastic carriers which take more than 400 years to break down in landfill sites.

Each bag contained information on how to reduce, reuse and recycle, including a free "no junk mail" sticker for people to attach to their letter box.

The bag also advertised the Love Food Hate Waste campaign www.lovefoodhatewaste.com which highlights the fact that we in the UK buy more food than we need, and throw away about 33% of it.

To learn more on how to reduce, reuse and recycle in Croydon, contact the recycling team by emailing recycle@croydon.gov.uk or calling 020 8726 6200.

Same-day waste service now in place

Improvements come as part of extended waste contract deal

Croydon's new household waste and recycled materials collection service has now been rolled out across the borough.

The same-day service has been introduced in response to residents' requests for simpler collections, ensuring greater efficiency – and saving council taxpayers over a million pounds a year.

Wheeled bins will continue to be emptied every week, but residents can now put out their waste and recycling on the same day every fortnight, including the new twin-box recycling service and the seasonal green waste service.

About 95,000 households now have a different collection day, which has been detailed in an information leaflet.

The move also means contractor, Veolia Environmental Services, can now respond faster to any missed collections.

The shift is part of a £4.75 million investment in better facilities which will help Croydon achieve its goal of achieving a 28% return within the next 12 months.

An extended recycling service, for some 75,000 residents living in blocks of flats, also started on 30 June and will be implemented over the next 18 months.

Sporting summer

Use the summer months to sharpen skills or try a new activity

August promises to be a busy month at Monks Hill Sports Centre as it hosts a range of activities for all ages and abilities.

Each week will focus on a different activity so getting bored is not an option – you could even run your own "Olympic Games".

Starting with family badminton, and working through baton twirling and basketball, to trampolining with expert coaches on hand.

There's also a full week of multisport activities and a special under-fives' football session.

For more information, contact Verena Bryant, Centre Manager, Monks Hill Sports Centre, Farnborough Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 8HD.

Alternatively, call **020 8651 0984** or visit the website of management company Fusion at www.fusion-lifestyle.com

Week 1: Family badminton – all ages welcome – no coaching provided
Wednesday 23 – Friday 25 July, 2pm to 4pm
One hour court hire £10

Week 2: Multisports – 8 to 12 years
Monday 28 July – Friday 1 August
10am to noon – Five days £30

Baton twirling – all ages welcome
Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 July,
10am to noon
Two days £15

Week 3: Basketball – 8 to 12 years
Monday 4 – Wednesday 6 August,
10am to noon
Three days £15

Family Badminton
All ages welcome – no coaching provided
Monday 4 – Friday 8 August, 2pm to 4pm
One hour court hire £10

Week 4: Trampolining 5 to 8 years (parents must accompany children) Monday 11 – Wednesday 13 August, 10am to 11am
Trampolining 9 to 12 years – Monday 11 to Wednesday 13 August, 11am to noon
Three days £15

Week 5: Football – under 5s
Monday 18 – Friday 22 August, 10am to noon
Five days £30

Week 6: Baton twirling – all ages welcome
Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 August,
10am to noon – Two days £15



New children's boss for Croydon

Council appoints Dave Hill as executive director for children

Responsible for raising education standards in Merton, Dave Hill has been given the opportunity to repeat his success in Croydon, the London borough with the largest school-age population in the capital.

He will move across the borough boundary to become Croydon's executive director for children, young people and learners, in September.

He took the role as Merton's director of children, schools and families in October 2005 after five years at Tower Hamlets where he had been head of children's services.

In Croydon he will be one of a small, newly

restructured council management team being assembled under chief executive Jon Rouse.

He will also be expected to take responsibility for the major secondary schools review on which the council has just launched an extensive public consultation programme.

In Merton he formed and led a new directorate which achieved a good outcome in inspections. He also oversaw the opening of two city academies in record time.

Dave Hill is the second external appointment to Croydon's team of executive directors.

Tom Jeffrey, executive director for community services, recently switched from Sutton.

Croydon and Birmingham lead the way

Two authorities to spearhead national third-sector project

Croydon Council and Birmingham City Council are spearheading a national project aimed at providing improved services through voluntary and community organisations.

The councils have been awarded £100,000 from the government's Peer Support fund for improving partnerships with the voluntary sector.

The award follows a range of activities by both councils to share learning about effective local delivery and partnership working, and comes on the back of Croydon's Beacon award for local strategic partnerships and local area agreements.

Eviction for drugs tenant

Failure to draw line under offending sees woman lose council home

A New Addington tenant has been evicted from her council home after allowing her boyfriend to use it as a drugs den.

The 42-year-old woman was given every opportunity to put a stop to the criminal activity taking place at the Claygate Crescent property.

Instead, she allowed her 28-year-old partner to continue, knowing she was in serious breach of her tenancy conditions.

Now she has paid the price for that disregard after being ordered to leave the home she had lived in for 10 years.

Croydon County Court heard how police swooped on the address in April 2007, seizing two bags of cannabis, 11.8g of cocaine, 20 bags of cannabis seeds, 500g

glucose powder, electronic scales and £420 in cash.

The council's first attempt to reclaim the property followed, but the case was adjourned for fear of prejudicing ongoing criminal proceedings against the man.

The couple failed to use the reprieve as an opportunity to change their ways.

Once criminal proceeding against the man concluded, the council had a successful return to court with Judge David Ellis granting an outright possession order.

The judge concluded that there was repeated evidence of drug abuse and conduct likely to cause a nuisance to residents. He said that selling drugs in the house could lead to other criminal activity.

Young and influential

Teenagers in Croydon are having a direct say in what concerns them

You may feel, if you're aged between 11 and 18, that politics is of no interest to you and has no impact on your life.

But you're so wrong – and the UK Youth Parliament can show you why.

A national charity aiming to give young people a voice on a local and national level, UKYP is a lively and necessary forum with an active presence in Croydon.

Back in February, Chloë Cunningham and Lokkei Wong were elected as Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) to represent young people in Croydon.

Richard Serunjogi and Melvin Kurankye were elected as deputies at the same time.



The aims of the UK Youth Parliament in Croydon are:

- to raise awareness of UKYP and what it can do for young people;
- to find out how young people feel about local services available to them;
- to represent these views to the borough's decision makers.

The MYPs and deputies have brought together an action team of young people to help them do this and are currently visiting youth projects around the borough to talk to other young people.

Interested in finding out more? Then take this opportunity to join the UK Youth Parliament Action Team. The team meets on Monday evenings, from 4.30 to 6.30pm, in the Youth Office at Suffolk House, College Road, Croydon.

For further information, email ukyp.croydon@croydon.gov.uk or call 020 8760 5598.

The Numbers

Neighbourhood
recycling sites
24

Different materials
collected for recycling
30

Required reduction
in waste sent to
landfill this year
**10,000
tonnes**

Where does your

Clothing, cars – even aeroplanes – are among the end products when your recycling is collected



Plastic bottles are sold to companies who use the material to make items such as fence posts, drain pipes and, even, clothing.

Aware of the possible costs to our environment if it is not done, more and more people are adopting recycling as an everyday aspect of modern life. But not everybody knows exactly what happens to that jar/can/plastic bottle once their recycling bin has been emptied.

A short time ago, a party of Croydon Council officers took a trip to waste contractor Veolia's Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) to find out more.

The MRF is in a big warehouse on the bank of the Thames in Rainham, Essex.

Every year it accepts 50,000 tonnes of recycling from a number of councils, including Croydon, and its sole purpose is to separate the tins and cans, mixed glass and plastic bottles so that they can then be recycled.

To achieve this separation, the recycling has to go through several processes linked by a series of conveyor belts.

Stage 1 – the Trommel Screen

The Trommel Screen is a large revolving drum into which the recycling is placed. As the drum turns, the tins, cans, plastic bottles and glass are separated out by falling through different shaped holes in its surface on to a conveyor belt.

Stage 2 – separating the tins and cans

Magnets pull the steel cans from the mixed materials. Next, in a separate area, the remaining, aluminium, cans are given a magnetic charge and repelled from the conveyor belt into a chute.

Stage 3- separating the glass

The remaining glass and plastic bottles are then sent through a "piercer/crusher", which flattens the plastic bottles and breaks up any pieces of glass. Rotating metal discs then allow the glass fragments to drop through, while the plastic continues on the conveyor belt. The separated glass goes through a "de-stoner" where any small pieces of paper and plastic are blown out of the glass.

Stage 4 – separating the plastic bottles

Different grades and sorts of plastic are used to make plastic bottles for a variety of uses. The plastic "auto sort" uses an infrared beam to sense the varying densities before a jet of air shoots the different bottles into separate bays off the conveyor belt. The plastic bottles are sorted into HDPE (eg, milk bottles), coloured HDPE (eg, detergent bottles), clear PET (eg, fizzy drink bottles) and coloured PET (eg, beer bottles).

These various mechanised processes are supplemented at different stages by hand picking from the conveyor belts to reduce contamination of the recycling.

What happens next?

The tins and cans are sold to metal processors who use the steel and aluminium to make new items such as new food and drink cans, cars and even aeroplanes.

Did you know that just one recycled can saves enough energy to run a television set for three hours?

The glass bottles are sold to aggregate companies where they are ground for use in building work.

recycling go?

At present, sand made from glass from the MRF is being used in the construction of new buildings needed for the 2012 Olympic Games.

Plastic bottles are sold to companies who use the material to make items such as fence posts, drain pipes and, even, clothing.

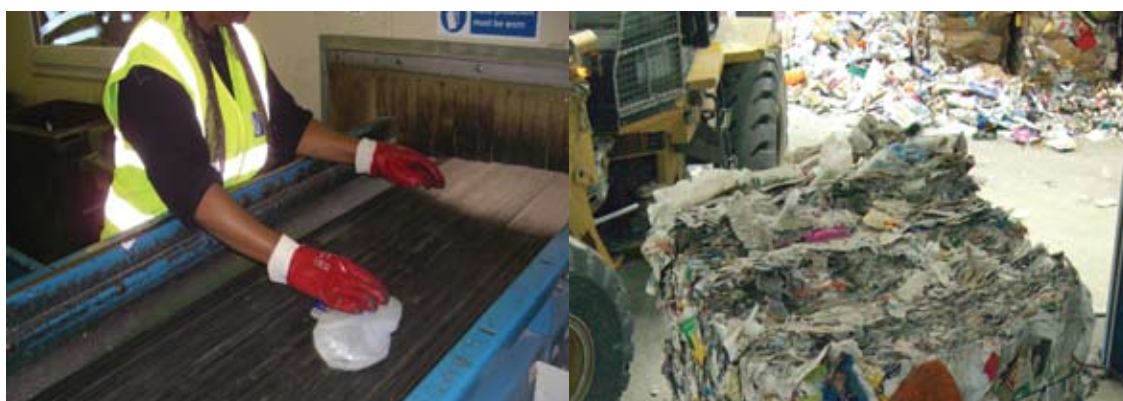
Paper and card are collected at an earlier stage and transported to Holmans in Chatham, Kent,

where they are recycled back into cardboard.

Textiles are sold to companies which sort them for reuse, where possible; alternatively, they are made into cleaning cloths.

For an informative virtual tour of the Greenwich MRF, which is similar to the one at Rainham, visit:

www.veoliaenvironmentalservices.co.uk/greenwich/veolia.html



Paper and card are collected at an earlier stage and taken to Holmans in Chatham, Kent, where they are recycled back into cardboard.

Proving its worth

Unique Croydon service helps avert potentially dangerous situation

Since its launch in 2004, Croydon's Careline service has given many older people across the borough a valued sense of security when they might otherwise have felt vulnerable.

The service, which uses a community alarm system, helps the customer feel safe and secure in the knowledge that, in an emergency, they can get the help and assistance they need at the press of a button.

One Shirley resident recently had particular cause to be grateful for the Careline service.

The elderly woman had failed to notice how close a tea towel was to her hob while she was cooking.

Before she had time to react, the tea towel had caught fire. This, in turn, set light to some nearby clothing.

Fortunately, with Careline monitoring her smoke alarm, the emergency services were immediately alerted and firefighters were quickly on the scene to deal with what could have developed into a nasty fire.

In addition to calling the fire brigade, Careline staff

were able to contact the woman's son, whose details were held on file.

From less than 40p per day, an alarm unit is connected to the customer's telephone line and a nearby electrical socket.

A pendant is worn, either round the neck or wrist, and a touch of the pendant's button connects the wearer to Careline's contact centre.

Experienced operators are on hand to reassure the caller and contact a response team which will go the address and give the necessary assistance – usually within 30 minutes of the call.

Croydon Careline can provide pendant alarms for people who live alone, are frail or have a disability, those suffering domestic violence, race hate, harassment or who are victims of crime.

The 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year service is unique in Croydon, providing staff who receive ongoing training to enable them to deal with a variety of emergencies.

For further information, or to arrange a Careline demonstration or installation at a time convenient to you call **020 8654 7166** or **020 8726 6500**.



From less than 40p per day, an alarm unit is connected to the customer's telephone line and a nearby electrical socket.

One year on ...

It's a year, now, since Jon Rouse joined Croydon Council as chief executive and it's fair to say that he's made his mark in his short time at the borough's helm.

While admitting that the new job has been a steep learning curve, he says it's one that he has enjoyed – for all its many facets.

So, Jon, how has the first year been, and has Croydon lived up to whatever expectations you may have had of it?

"The time's gone incredibly quickly – every day is so full of activity," he said.

"The borough has more than met my expectations, but, inevitably I don't feel I've achieved enough during my first 12 months.

"We have made improvements in customer service and efficiency, and I am pleased with the secondary schools review and the roll-out of a better recycling service.

"However, the credit crunch, which is hitting everybody, has slowed some of the regeneration projects that we've been able to get started.

"And I'm a little disappointed with the pace at which things happen.

"Some people in Croydon have a 'mañana' attitude – tomorrow will do. Some seem more interested in the decision-making process than making decisions, others frightened of getting things wrong. We must be bolder.

"That said, I've had such a warm welcome, boroughwide, and I've found Croydon to be so vibrant – people genuinely want to work together to forge a better quality of life.

"One of the biggest surprises, though, has been discovering all the beautiful places I didn't know – from South Norwood Lake to Selsdon Woods; the historic Windmill, Pumping Station and churches.

"Then there have been the cultural attractions, such as the Croydon Youth Theatre Organisation, and the Jazz Festival, which brought famous names to the town and brightened lunchtime strolls along North End for so many people."

He has been particularly impressed by the young people he has met: "I've visited many schools and some youth facilities. And, I'm pleased to say, some of those youngsters have also emailed me direct.

"They always have something interesting to say and they certainly give me a grounded perspective."



Were a genie to appear and tell him that he would be granted one wish, Jon would like to see a regenerated town centre that put the emphasis on the pedestrian, with a network of great public squares and green streets.

Such a vision, he feels, would go some way to seeing Croydon become London's third city.

"The status attached to that title would attract more companies and more cash here – I want residents to have interesting, well-paid jobs on their doorstep.

"We have the public transport infrastructure and geographical position to achieve that, so let's go for it!"

Does he feel that the proposals mapped out for the town centre by architect Will Alsop stand any real chance of coming to fruition?

"Yes, but it will take 30 years.



"We have made improvements in customer service and efficiency, and I am pleased with the secondary schools review and the roll out of a better recycling service."



and a chance for the man at the top to reflect – and outline his hopes for Croydon's future

"Green streets, taming the highways, more people living in the town centre, and more, improved cultural facilities will happen – certainly not overnight but, when they do, Croydon will be the better for it".

Finally, asked what he feels is the most important thing he has to take forward, he answers with an emphatic: "Education, education, education. Our children deserve it."

Green streets, taming the highways, more people living in the town centre, and more, improved cultural facilities will happen – certainly not overnight but, when they do, Croydon will be the better for it.



One of the biggest surprises, has been discovering all the beautiful places I didn't know – from South Norwood Lake to Selsdon Woods; the historic Windmill, Pump House and churches.

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The Numbers

Children's playgrounds
44

Parks and open spaces
121

Cost of Croydon's
first public park
(Duppas Hill, 1863)
£2,000

Park life

Forget expensive trips to faraway places – discover the delights on your doorstep



One of Croydon's most diverse natural environments is South Norwood Country Park, covering 125 acres of land on the borough's eastern boundary with Bromley.



Top to bottom: South Norwood Country Park, The Queen's Gardens, Waddon Ponds

With summer in full swing and the effects of the credit crunch possibly limiting people's travel options, now is as good a time as any to become acquainted with Croydon's parks and green spaces.

With more than 120 public open spaces, Croydon's reputation as one of the capital's greenest boroughs is well earned – a reputation that has been recognised with the elevation of the borough to represent London in this year's Britain in Bloom competition.

Corners in the north, east, south and west are well served with areas ranging in size from the quarter-acre of Thornton Heath occupied by Northwood Road Playground, to the sprawling 252 acres of Happy Valley in Coulsdon.

And it's not just the outlying parts of the borough that are so well served; in addition to The Queen's Gardens, adjacent to the Town Hall, within a few short minutes' walk of central Croydon, people can escape to the peace and greenery of Park Hill.

So, make up some sandwiches, grab a bottle of water, and spend a few hours exploring and enjoying either your local patch of green or another, across the borough, you might not ordinarily consider.

One of Croydon's most diverse natural environments is South Norwood Country Park, covering 125 acres of land on the borough's eastern boundary with Bromley.

With a history of use as a sewage farm and pottery and brickworks, the park is now home to many species of plant and wildlife, and the wardens regularly host natural history classes for local schools and groups in the visitor centre.

The park's highest point is the viewpoint, an artificial mound created, in the main, from hardcore tipping following wartime demolition. Landscaped in 1988 at the beginning of the project to develop the site into a large country park, the viewpoint offers panoramic views across the surrounding land.

To the west, and close to the Sutton boundary, lies Waddon Ponds, which feeds into the Wandle, currently the only place in Croydon where the river can be seen at ground level.

The open water attracts and is home to many species of water bird and insect life, and the banks are lined

with willows, the weeping fronds of which reach down to the waters surface.

Waddon Ponds offers an oasis of serenity only yards away from the traffic-clogged A23 Purley Way.

Park lovers in the north of the borough need look no further than the 34.5 acres of Norwood Grove.

The grove's history dates as far back as the Domesday Book, when, as part of Great Streatham Common, it was referred to as Lime Common, stretching from Norbury to Tulse Hill.

It became known as Norwood Grove at about the beginning of the 19th century, though, for a time since, was known as Streatham Grove before reverting to its modern name in 1926.

Pride of place goes to the 19th century White House, as it is known locally. Considerably larger than it is now, the building suffered bomb damage during World War II, destroying one wing of the building.

As with many such large houses, the Second World War saw it pressed into service, and wartime use included the cultivation of tomatoes and onions in the large greenhouses.



Park Hill

Park Hill - the water tower



Park Hill's most eye-catching feature is the 125-foot high water tower, built in 1867, at the park's southern end. Its purpose was to improve the water supply for the higher areas of Croydon and had a capacity of 950,000 gallons.

A feature of the grounds is the fountain on the main lawn, which boasts small figures, depicting the months of the year, holding a large flat dish into which the water spills.

Croydon's southern extremity plays host to the largest expanse of greenery in the borough – Happy Valley.

Linking Farthing Downs and Coulsdon Common, Happy Valley comprises wooded copses, open meadows, grass downland, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, and miles of meandering paths and bridleways.

A naturalist's playground, Happy Valley is home to a number of species of orchid, as well as wild roses, wood millet, red campion and wood sorrel. Trees to be seen and enjoyed include oak, horse chestnut, beech, ash and hazel. Wildlife includes a wide range of moths and butterflies, owls, linnets, green finches, stoats, weasels, moles and varieties of mice.

Earlier this year, a partnership of Croydon Council and the Old Surrey Downs Project saw sheep reintroduced to the valley's northern slopes in the form of a mixed 20-strong flock of Herdwick and Jacob ewes. Their presence will help to keep down scrubby vegetation and grasses which might otherwise threaten the grassland's wild flowers.

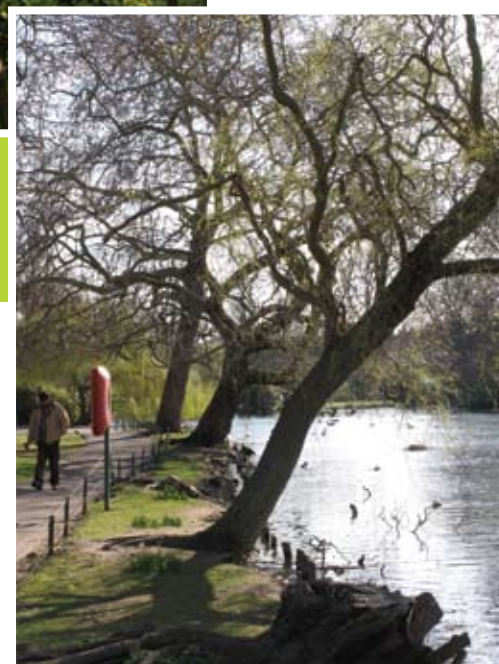
As previously mentioned, the town centre is well served by Park Hill, stretching from Fairfield Road to Coombe

Road, with its 15 acres of lawn, tended flower beds, sports and play facilities, and views across to the skyline of modern Croydon.

Park Hill's most eye-catching feature is the 125-foot high water tower, built in 1867, at the park's southern end. Its purpose was to improve the water supply for the higher areas of Croydon and had a capacity of 950,000 gallons.

World War I saw the tower used as a watch point to spot the approach of hostile Zeppelins, oncoming bad weather, fires and excessive lighting. It was last used to hold water in the 1960s, and a public outcry saved it from demolition and paved the way to the Grade II listing it now enjoys.

This handful of highlighted parks and green spaces gives only a taste of the breadth of variety available to everybody in Croydon. For details of all the facilities managed by Croydon Council, visit www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/parksandopenspaces/



Top to bottom: Norwood Grove, Waddon Ponds, Happy Valley

Purley's new vision

Exciting plans outlined to residents for next 20 years of district centre



Pedestrianised areas, the scrapping of the one-way system, landscaping and new residential, commercial and public buildings are all part of Croydon Council's vision for Purley town centre.

The initial proposals were outlined to a recent packed public meeting that saw the discussion of a number of factors, including:

- creating a vibrant, mixed town centre to act as a focus for the local community;
- supporting the town-centre economy;
- traffic and parking;
- the relationship between Tesco and the town centre;
- Purley's image;
- redevelopment of key sites, including the swimming pool; and
- café culture and activity, including street markets.

While recognising the need to accommodate the car, the 20-year vision seeks to create high-quality, safe and well-connected streets and spaces to attract people back to the town centre to shop and enjoy their leisure time.

One of the key steps to the town's regeneration will be the removal of the gyratory traffic system.

The plan would see it replaced with a simplified crossroads at Purley Cross, freeing land for new mixed-use buildings to the north of Tesco and improved links between the supermarket and town centre.

High Street would become a pedestrian-priority zone with limited vehicle access, and two-way traffic would be reintroduced to Russell Hill Parade.

The outlines will be developed further over the summer, taking in discussions with key stakeholders, including Transport for London, and the assessment of projects that could be completed in the early stages.

The intention will be to complete the *Vision for Purley Town Centre* report in time for a presentation to the next meeting of the Purley and Kenley Neighbourhood Partnership in the autumn.

The *Vision for Purley Town Centre* is part of a boroughwide programme named Shaping Places that will deliver a single strategic document for each area of the borough.



The long(er) arm of the law

Town-centre policing increased by 50%

The fight against crime and antisocial behaviour has received a significant boost with the introduction of an extra police unit for Croydon's town centre.

In response to the ever-increasing demand for an extra police presence on our streets, the Safer Croydon Partnership and Croydon Bid (Business Improvement District) have jointly backed the new unit, adding to the two existing teams.

This new squad adds considerable weight to police numbers in the borough's main shopping area, and will make a tangible impact on the safety and security of all using the centre.

Ros Morgan, Bid manager, said: "Addressing crime and the fear of crime is a top priority for Croydon Bid.

"Clearly, extra police numbers will have an immediate impact on the streets, not just in terms of dealing with antisocial behaviour, but also in terms of visibility."

Croydon's police are delighted to be able to deploy more officers on the beat.

"It's great news that, working with the Safer Croydon Partnership and the Bid, we've been able to provide additional staff to the town centre," said Chief Inspector Phil Willis, of Croydon police.

"Without the additional funding of some of the posts this would not have been possible.

"With the extra staff, we can increase the hours worked and enhance the proactive work the existing team has already been doing.

"It should enable us to improve the service to shops, increase a visible presence in the town and to have additional resources to police the night-time economy."

Supporting parents

Could you benefit from parenting and family support? If so, the council is here to help

There are 90,000 children and young people in the borough and Croydon Council – and its partners – want to get the message that “everyone matters” to all families.



Support is available, whatever your circumstances, so don't hide behind closed doors, get in touch – send an email to justask@croydon.gov.uk or call **020 8726 6400 ext 63529**.

Did you know?

Parentline Plus is another source of support. To get in touch, call free at any time 0808 800 2222 and, for further information, visit www.parentlineplus.org.uk

Parentline Plus in Croydon is holding regular Parentline Plus face-to-face support and information surgeries across the borough. Call the local office on 0208 689 2252 or drop in at any of the venues listed below.

The surgeries are at:

Leaf House, Family Centre, 25 Shrublands Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, CR0 8JD
Tel: **020 8777 1855**

Croydon Play Care, Gingerbread Corner, Grenaby Avenue, Croydon, CR0 2EG
Tel: **020 8683 3322**

New Addington Baptist Church, Arnhem Drive, New Addington, CR0 0EE
Tel: **01689 800291**

The Family Centre, Field Way, New Addington, CR0 9AZ
Tel: **01689 844277**

Archbishop Lanfranc School, Mitcham Road, Croydon, CR9 3AS
Tel: **020 8689 1255 x3**

Heavers Farm Primary School, 58 Dinsdale Gardens, South Norwood, SE25 6LT
Tel: **020 8653 5434**

The next round of parenting and family support courses start in September, and there will also be a range of projects running – short courses, workshops and parenting programmes.

These are suitable for: parents/carers, mums and dads, lone parents, step parents, grandparents, foster parents, and extended family members.

The Croydon parenting and family support development team will tell you about the parenting courses dates available and put you in touch with the programmes that best suit your needs.

Send an email to justask@croydon.gov.uk or call **020 8726 6400 ext 63529**.

Croydon Voluntary Action Children's Fund

projects include the ADHD Network, which supports families of children and young people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Call 020 8683 5911 for further information.

Croydon Primary Care Trust is also keen to support parents and to promote children's health and well-being – from the early stages of pregnancy and throughout the child's first five years of life.

The trust promotes breast feeding, is there to support social and emotional development, and to help prevent obesity. It can also offer screening tests and immunisations.

Families with particular needs can benefit from additional services, provided in partnership with other agencies.

For further information, call **020 8274 6239 x 6125** or email elaine.trainor@croydonpct.nhs.uk

Working together

A number of agencies, organisations and groups are working together to support Croydon families.

These include: neighbourhood housing teams, health care service providers, the youth offending team, councillors and representatives from children's centres, extended schools, youth centres, faith groups, community and voluntary sector parenting and family services, community education and training service providers, police public protection, customer services, adult social services and Croydon's children's information services.



Families with particular needs can benefit from additional services, provided in partnership with other agencies.





croydon ec citizen

Summer citizens feel the power at their fingertips

Ideas and enthusiasm for Ecocitizen have gathered pace – thank you to everyone who has sent in their Green Tips and nominations.

We're waiting to find out who the winners are, and know that all the nominees have been making a difference. Here's one:

Like a Prayer

"She's been an angel," says Christine Addison's nominator. "Her own mobility difficulties mean she's been able to help other people with sorting some of the extra materials that can be recycled. Christine shreds her own bank statement and washes out her cans but also collects egg boxes, cardboard rolls and other reusable goodies from neighbours, friends and family to take to her daughter's school for craft lessons."

Our first Green Tip prize winner!

The green tip for May was on recycling. We know that lots of you are now using the new blue and green recycling boxes (see photo) for plastic bottles, cardboard and green garden waste, and the recycling banks serving blocks of flats, but it is good to think how to dispose of other things that shouldn't really go in the bin.

Congratulations to Miss P G Onions, of Waddon, who sent in the following tip – a cheque for £75 is on its way.

"Out-of-date or partly used medicines can be safely recycled by returning them to any chemist. This prevents substances such as antibiotics being dumped down the drain (and so into the water) or into the bin (to go to landfill or incineration)."

And some summer specials:

"Make the most of summer – hang the washing out and scrap the tumble dryer" – with thanks to Kathryn Kane.

"A better insulated home can keep cooler in the summer, as well as warmer in the winter."

For our loft and cavity wall insulation offer with British Gas – £100 back from your council tax – just call 0845 971 7731 or go to www.keepcroydonwarm.org.uk and quote reference CCCT

Your Green Tip

AUGUST - have you been using your car less often?

Tell us how, and this month's prize could be yours. It could be your own habits, or the whole family's; at home or at work.

Complete an I Move London pledge online and commit to reducing your car travel. See: www.tfl.gov.uk/imovelondon



Your Croydon Green Tips

Each month, until September, you are invited to send us your Green Tip on that month's theme. The Ecocitizen Judging Panel will award £75 in vouchers to the best tip (20-word summary and up to 200 words only, please – a photo or picture can be sent, too).

BRITAIN IN BLOOM – Croydon's entry in this national competition will be boosted by your participation in Croydon Ecocitizen.



Did you know?

Among the many items accepted by the council's three main recycling centres are hand tools. These are recycled (see photo) or reused through the charity Tools for Self Reliance. Suitable tools are refurbished and packaged for use by projects in Africa.

Entries

Entries will be judged according to the sustainability of the project and its outcome, originality and any positive impact on the wider community.

There will be a grand presentation ceremony on Thursday 23 October, 2-4pm in the Arnhem Gallery, Fairfield Halls.

Details of the categories can be found on the council website: www.croydon.gov.uk/environment/

Category

Recycler of the year

Low carbon household

Favourite Croydon 'green' project

Natural Croydon

Best environmental 'message/campaign'

Primary school

Secondary school

The Croydon Ecocitizen 2008

IN THE WORK PLACE

Businesses play an important part in changing our approach to the environment. The council supports Environmental Business Excellence (ENVIBE), which will run its next awards programme in summer 2009. For details contact Debbie Clement on 020 8760 5536, or visit: www.envibe.co.uk. The council will run an internal prize scheme.

We're in our twenties and we run our own business. We're doing our bit to make Croydon safer, are you doing yours?



For further information about setting up a business in Croydon visit www.croydon.gov.uk/business



INCORPORATING THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:



Croydon Enterprise

Croydon Enterprise provides a wide range of support and advice for businesses including financial advice, franchising opportunities and more.

Croydon Enterprise can give businesses information on:

- finance for new and growing businesses
- business advice
- local franchise opportunities
- international trade / export
- affordable premises / accommodation
- 'business friendly' planning advice
- business courses and workshops.

Call the Croydon Enterprise business hotline - 020 8680 6161 or visit the website at www.croydonenterprise.com

Console Lounge

Console Lounge is a computer gaming centre, providing Xbox 360s, Play Station 3 and a Nintendo Wii; all of which are displayed on 32" HDMI screens and are connected to the internet for live, interactive and virtual gaming.

Console Lounge regularly plays host to tournaments for games such as Pro Evolution Soccer 2008.

Console Lounge's aim for the future is to open other sites across the UK where they can hold tournaments and other events on a grander scale and allow those who have a passion for gaming a place to express themselves.

For further information about Console Lounge, please visit www.consolelounge.co.uk

Nominations



My name

Contact number/email:

My green tip

I am nominating

Category

Name

Contact number/email

Reason for nomination

Please return to: Environment and Sustainability team, 18th floor, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3BT Tel. 020 8760 5791 email: sustainability@croydon.gov.uk

The Numbers

Books read last year
50,000

Years of Book Trail
20

Age of youngest
Book Trailer
3

Page turns on landmark anniversary

Scheme that has helped thousands of young readers grew from small idea

Croydon Libraries' renowned Book Trail reading challenge is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

A generation of children have grown up with this annual celebration of books and reading – some have gone on to introduce their own children to the scheme, while others see it from the other side as they now work for Croydon's library service.

One former member of staff at the Central Children's Library even brought her childhood Book Trail certificates to her interview for a library assistant job.

The trail started at just five branches but has grown to include all 13 of the borough's libraries and is a major part of the dynamic events and promotions run by library staff.

Children as young as three can share books with their families and earn badges, bookmarks and certificates. Last year, 50,000 books were enjoyed by 5,800 children and their carers.

Over the years, the Book Trail has grown and now encompasses the Bookstart Baby Book Crawl.

This encourages babies and the very youngest children

to be introduced to books, whether as board books, finger rhymes or bedtime stories.

Stickers are collected and an invitation given to a special Rhymetime session where everyone is presented with a certificate.

Another offshoot of the trail is the Teen Summer Reads scheme, launched in 2007 to encourage teenagers to read more. In addition to reading books, participating teenagers have the chance to enter a competition to write the best book review.

The 2008 Book Trail is running until Saturday, 23 August, alongside Bookstart Baby Book Crawl and Teen Summer Reads.

To take part in any of the schemes, all that is needed is a library card, available free from any borough library.

More information is available in *Mega* magazine, available from schools and libraries. There really is no need to be bored over the summer when Croydon Libraries have so much to offer.



Book Trail

With great reads and fantastic rewards, which trail will you follow?

**Monday 21 July -
Saturday 23 August**

A vibrant, colorful advertisement for Drusillas Park's 'Lemurland' exhibit. The top features the text 'THE FUN FINDING OUT DAY OUT' in large, stylized letters. Below this, it says 'Every day is a Thomas Day at...' with images of Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends. The central part of the ad shows various lemurs in a lush, green environment, with children and adults interacting with them. Text at the bottom reads 'Get nose to nose with nature in our brand new walkthrough LEMURLAND Opens Easter 2008'. The Drusillas Park logo is prominently displayed on the right, along with the tagline 'NO ORDINARY ZOO!'. At the very bottom, it provides the location 'At Alfriston just off the A27 near Eastbourne', a phone number 'Call 01323 874100', and the website 'www.drusillas.co.uk'.

Building for the future

The second of Croydon's new accommodation projects for older people is set to welcome its first residents

Ground-breaking plans to transform elderly care are taking another step forward with the opening of Heavers Farm in South Norwood.

The new residential and nursing home – on track to open next month – is one of the first of its kind in the country and promises a “one-stop shop” for older people with accommodation, day centres and specialist clinics all included.

Heavers Farm will have 60 beds for those with various stages of dementia. There will be a number of other services on site such as the memory clinic, care management team and the Alzheimer's Society.

Two day centres will also offer support for early-onset dementia clients and late-onset dementia.

The opening is the latest stage of Croydon Council's £38m goal to create new Homes for the Future care services, which is seeing older, inadequate buildings replaced by high-standard modern facilities.

This home will be occupied by residents moving from two existing nursing homes.

Fellows Court

July saw the opening of Fellows Court, in Morland Road, Addiscombe, offering 30 one-bedroom, and eight two-bedroom, flats for the physically frail.

The new building sits behind the former Coleby Court residential home and includes communal lounges, a dining room, laundry room and a communal garden.

The biggest plus is that those needing a little help can live independent lives in their own properties, with the help of on-site teams and support from adult social services.

Eldon Housing Association is the landlord at Fellows Court, while the council provides the on-site care and support service.



Residents will be encouraged to live a healthy lifestyle and will have easy access to medical services, helping them to stay independent longer.

The flats have been clustered together to encourage tenants to mingle and share social activities – and each flat has a call system so help can be called in an emergency. Lunch will be available if required.

Two further homes – Addington Heights and Langley Oaks Resource Centre – will open in 2010.

A limited number of flats is still available at Fellows Court. To find out more, send an email to adriana.costantino@croydon.gov.uk

Alternatively, write to Adriana Costantino, Homes for the Future, 11th Floor, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS; or call **020 8726 6000**

The Numbers

Homes for the Future project funding
£38m

New centres across borough
4

Residential and nursing places
198



Residents will be encouraged to live a healthy lifestyle and will have easy access to medical services, helping them to stay independent longer.



Croydon trading standards officers are warning members of the public to be on their guard against bogus property repair conmen who may try to rip them off.

Rounding up the cowboys

Don't fall victim to the doorstep rogues out to get your money

The long, warm days of summer are, too often, seen by crooks and conmen as the ideal time to go about their nasty business.

The most frequent approaches made by these doorstep offenders are to the homes of elderly people, offering to carry out roofing, guttering, tree surgery or paving work.

Croydon trading standards officers are warning members of the public to be on their guard against bogus property repair conmen who may try to rip them off.

The list of scams is a long one and the council is seeing too many instances of rogues trying to fleece their victims out of thousands of pounds for cons involving wall coatings, mobility aids, rats in their garden, and even manure fertiliser.

There really is no limit to how low these fraudsters will stoop. And there is often further cost to the victim, where the damage inflicted on their homes has to be urgently remedied by reputable tradesmen.

This type of crime is vastly under-reported, but trading standards officers are urging people who do fall victim to this type of crime to report it and not to feel silly or embarrassed – these criminals are experienced fraudsters who are skilled in swindling people out of their money.

Keep an eye open, too, for elderly or vulnerable friends and neighbours who might fall prey to their approach,



and report any suspicions that you may have – however slight.

As part of a proactive approach to tackling the problem, Croydon's trading standards officers were recently out in force, working with Croydon police, to ensure that rogue traders were made to realise they are not welcome.

The national day of action saw teams of trading standards officers and safer neighbourhood police about the borough, talking to tradesmen and residents alike and ensuring that any work being carried out was being undertaken by reputable tradesmen.

In all, 58 traders were approached, with five follow-up investigations continuing.

Residents concerned that they or their neighbours may have been duped, or have had suspect workmen knock at their door alleging that their roof, driveway, gutters, gardens, or any other parts of the home need work, are asked to contact Consumer Direct on **08454 04 05 06** or email trading.standards@croydon.gov.uk

And always remember – reputable tradesmen don't knock on doors offering work.

Keep an eye open for elderly or vulnerable friends and neighbours who might fall prey and report any suspicions that you may have – however slight.

From here to modernity

Joining the parade

This month, renowned local photographer Frazer Ashford remembers his childhood in New Addington



The first address that I remember living at was a flat above Woolworths on Central Parade.

I guess that this must have been around the mid-'50s and I would travel into Croydon to go to school on a daily basis.

Lodge Lane was just that, a country lane, and the land in front of Central Parade, where the library and leisure centre now stand, was just waste ground where I would ride my bike.

At the far end of this ground, where Overbury Crescent met Central Parade, not far from where the trams now terminate, there was a large flat area that was a regular location for many a fair or circus.

I would lean out of my bedroom window and watch the lights and hear the music on what, to me, were wondrous occasions.

The main change which occurred while we were living there was the "joining up" of the two halves of Central Parade.

There were about 20 shops at the north end of the parade and around the same number at the southern end. Slowly the gap became smaller until, one day, the

gap was gone and the long parade that we know today was complete.

I believe that the original plans showed that a mirror image of the parade was to be built opposite on the waste ground, but this never happened.

We moved to South Croydon around 1959 and, apart from returning to see old friends, I lost touch with the area.

The picture shows the parade in 1979 and, if you can make out the Boots store, on the bend about five shops from the right hand side of the picture, this was where, for many years, the southern parade stopped – literally, the end of the line, and we would look across a massive divide to the northern parade in the distance.

For more examples of Frazer's work, visit www.frazerashford.com



The main change which occurred while we were living there was the "joining up" of the two halves of Central Parade.


Lodge Lane was a country lane, and the land in front of Central Parade was just waste ground.


Dates for your diary

Council

Deadlines for public questions for forthcoming full council meetings (all start at 6.30pm) Noon on the relevant deadline date.

Meeting

 Monday, 6 October

 Monday, 1 December

Deadline

Monday, 22 September


Monday, 17 November

To submit a question (maximum number of words: 50) for consideration at a full council meeting, email it to council.questions@croydon.gov.uk; fax it to **020 8760 5657**; print and complete the form at www.croydon.gov.uk/councilquestion and post it to Questions for the council, Democratic and legal services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS; or call **020 8726 6000 extn 63876**

Scrutiny

Deadlines for the forthcoming scrutiny and overview committee public question sessions. Noon on the relevant deadline date.

Meeting

 9 September Scrutiny and overview

16 September Community services

Deadline

1 September

8 September

Cabinet Member

Cllr Gavin Barwell (resources and customer services)

Cllr Jason Perry (planning)

To submit a question (maximum number of words: 50) to the cabinet member detailed above, email it to scrutiny.public.questions@croydon.gov.uk; fax it to **020 8760 5657**; post it to Scrutiny public questions, Democratic and legal services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS; or call **020 8726 6000 extn 62529 or 62315**.

Neighbourhood Partnership

Neighbourhood partnership meetings (all start at 7.30pm)


Meeting

Group

venue

10 September South Norwood & Selhurst

Brit School, The Crescent, Selhurst

 17 September Sanderstead, Croham & Selsdon and Ballards

St John the Divine, Upper Selsdon Road, Selsdon

23 September Purley & Kenley

Christ Church Hall, Brighton Road, Purley

For information on Neighbourhood Partnerships, visit the website at www.croydononline.org/neighbourhood_partnerships/, email neighbourhood.partnerships@croydon.gov.uk, write to Neighbourhood Partnerships, Democratic and legal services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS or call **020 8726 6000 extn 62564 or 62811**

Croydon Community Police Consultative Group Partnership

Meetings of the Croydon community police consultative group are held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall. All are open to the public and begin at 6.30pm. For further information, go to www.croydononline.org/ccpcg

Forthcoming meeting dates are: Wednesday, 17 September; Tuesday, 25 November

Details of all Croydon Council meetings can be found on the council website at www.croydon.gov.uk/meetingsofthecouncil

 These meetings are to be transmitted using webcasting; Neighbourhood Partnership meetings are not webcast live. They can be viewed at www.croydon.ukcouncil.net/site/webcasts.php

What's On

www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure

August 08

Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon

Ticket office: tel:020 8253 1030

Email: ticketoffice@croydon.gov.uk

Text: 07771 837121

DAVID LEAN - AUGUST

Priceless **12A**

Cassandra's Dream **12A**

Heartbeat Detector **12A**

Mamma Mia! **12A** tbc

The Orphanage **15**

Still Life **PG**

A Complete History of
My Sexual Failures **18**

Blithe Spirit **U**

Before the Rains **12A**

Man on Wire **12A** tbc

My Winnipeg **U** tbc

Children's & Family Films

The Spiderwick Chronicles **PG** 9

Dr. Seuss': 5000 Fingers of Dr.T **U**

Pooh's Heffalump Movie **U**

Speed Racer **PG**

Step Up 2: The Streets **PG**

The Chronicles of Narnia:
Prince Caspian **PG**

Dr.Seuss' Horton Hears a Who! **U**
86mins



Mamma Mia



Narnia

Guided walks in August

Sunday 3 August

New Addington Woodland
Festival. Lower Ruff Field,
New Addington

Thursday 7 August

Morning walk on Mitcham
Common

Sunday 10 August

Farthing Downs - Jewel of
England's natural crown. For more
information call 020 8660 8533

Wednesday 13 August

Story time in Norbury Hall Park

Thursday 14 August

Incredible Insects, Whyteleafe
Recreation Ground. For more
information and to book a place,
call 07771 715812



Thursday 21 August

Family fun in Happy Valley. For
more information call 01737 733933

Sunday 24 August

Summer wild flowers of
Happy Valley

Saturday 30 August

Big bat and moth night in Selsdon
Wood. For more information and
to book a place call 020 8726
6900, ext 64952

For further information of these and other walks and wildlife, go to
www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/events or call the community
partnership officer on 020 8726 6900 ext 64952

Museum of Croydon exhibition

The Art of Dr. Seuss

Until 20 September 11am- 5pm

Dr. Seuss has been delighting
children and helping them learn to
read for more than 50 years with
his unique combination of hilarious
stories, zany pictures and riotous
rhymes. However, his "secret art"
gives us an insight into his private
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us artworks he rarely, if ever, exhibited
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